Vol VIII. Numb. 7

THE OBSERVATOR.

Farther Diſcourſe betwixt the Obſervator *and* Roger, *about preſerving the Priviledges of foreign Ambaſſadors, and other publick Miniſters. 'Tis the Intereſt of* Great Britain, *as much as of the Houſe of* Auſtria, *to ſupport King* Charles, *and to have* Spain *and the* Weſt Indies *reſtor'd to that Family.*

From Saturday, February 19. to Wednesday, February 23. 1709.

Obſ. WHAT do you hear about the Bill for ſecuring the Priviledges of Ambaſſadors and other foreign Miniſters, *Roger?* For I find the Houſe has been upon it.

Country-m. Hear, Maſter! I can tell you, that there's more of my firſt Opinion, that the Subjects of *Great Britain* ought, in all Reſpects, to be govern'd by their own muncipal Laws, than are of your Sentiments, that the *Law of Nations* ought, with Relation to Ambaſſadors, to be binding upon us.

Obſ. That muſt proceed either from Ignorance or Wilfulneſs, *Roger*; for the Law of Nations is as much ſuperior to a Statute or Cuſtom of any particular Country, as the whole World is ſuperior to any one Kingdom or State, and has always been accounted ſo, as I prov'd to you before, not only among civiliz'd, but even among barbarous Nations; which is plain from all Hiſtory, ſacred and prophane.

Country-m. I have told thoſe People ſo, Maſter, whom I have heard ſpeak not only againſt you and me, but againſt the Parliament it ſelf upon this Account.

Obſ. When you meet with any ſuch People again, *Roger*, ask them, if they be not willing to trade with other Countries? If they don't ſee that there's a Neceſſity for us to join with them in Alliance againſt the common Oppreſſor of *Chriſtendom?* If there be not an abſolute Neceſſity for Ambaſſadors to meet, from Time to Time, to conclude Wars, or to prevent them? And ſince there's ſcarce any Man ſo abſurd as to deny this, and that 'tis alſo neceſſary for Princes and States to ſend Ambaſſadors and other Miniſters, to reſide with one another, for ſecuring their mutual Commerce and Friendſhip, ask 'em how theſe Things can be done, except the Perſons, Retinues, Effects, and Houſes of publick Miniſters, be ſacred and inviolable? For if it be otherwiſe, there can be no ſuch Thing as Peace, War, Commerce, or Friendſhip, entertain'd betwixt one People and another; and ſince we have as great a Concern in all thoſe Things, as any Nation in the World, and have ſtood as much upon the Priviledges of our Ambaſſadors, as any Nation whatever, why ſhould not we allow that to the publick Miniſters of other Nations, which we would have allow'd to our own?

Country-m. I muſt confeſs, Maſter, I cannot anſwer your Objection, and I believe none of thoſe of contrary Sentiments, can.

Obſ. I make no Doubt, *Roger*, but our Legiſlators, who are inferior to none in *Europe* for Prudence and Juſtice, will take Care to do Right to Mankind in this Matter, and aſſert the Law of Nations in this Reſpect, as the Foundation of their Proceedings, ſince that is unalterable, as being the *Magna Charta* of human Race; whereas a Law or Statute of a particular Nation may be alter'd or repeal'd as thoſe who are poſſeſs'd of the Legiſlative Power, think fit: And therefore, as we would not look upon a particular Statute, without founding it on the Law of Nations, to be ſufficient in that Caſe, ſhould any of our publick Miniſters be affronted Abroad, we cannot ſuppoſe, that foreign Nations will conceive otherwiſe of our Statute, except it be founded on the Law of Nations, and corroborate the ſame.

Country-m. I am truly ſorry, Maſter, there ſhould have been any Occaſion for this Law in our Nation, where we have always valu'd our ſelves upon our good Nature; but ſince the beſt Laws have many Times proceeded from ill Practices, I hope, as you do, that our Legiſlators will aſſert the Law of Nations in that Reſpect, to repair the Diſhonour that we have ſuffer'd by that barbarous Inſult upon the *Muſcovite* Ambaſſador, that the like may be prevented in Time to come.

Obſ. I have no Doubt, *Roger*, of the Ability of thoſe who drew up the Bill; that ſome of them at leaſt underſtand the Law of Nations, and have read that celebrated Book on the Subject, by M. *de Wicquefort*, who was a publick Miniſter and Privy Counſellor to the Duke of *Brunſwick* and *Lunenburg-Zell*, where that Matter is treated with great Learning and Judgment; tho' it muſt be own'd, to the Honour of our Lords and Commons, that there's ſo many Perſons of Learning and Experience among them, and who have had the Honour to ſerve as publick Miniſters themſelves, that they need not to learn from any other; and we have no Reaſon to doubt, but ſuch of 'em as have born that Character, will take Care that all the Rights and Priviledges due to it by the Law of Nations, ſhall be as fully aſſerted, and as inviolably obſerv'd here, as any where elſe in the World; for 'tis the Honour of the *Britiſh* Nation, rather to give, than to take a good Example from any other; and as we have been at more Expence, than any of our Neighbours, to defend the Liberties of Nations, 'tis not to be ſuppos'd we ſhall be ſo much wanting to our own Character, as to come ſhort of any of them, in aſſerting and preſerving the Law of Nations.

Country-m. Expence, Maſter! we have been at Expence with a Witneſs! pray God we may ſee the good Fruits of it. Our Parliament, you ſee, is ready to give Money, and our People are willing to bring it in chearfully, to ſupport the Government, and enable them to aſſiſt our Allies; yet I am not without an extraordinary Concern, Maſter, for *Portugal* and *Spain*; Things, according to our laſt Advices, look ſo cloudy on that Side, that God knows when the Sky will clear. The *French* King makes ſuch Preparations on the Side of the *Netherlands*, according to all our publick Advices, as if he thought himſelf ſure every where elſe; and ſince the Honour of our Queen and Parliament is ſo far engag'd againſt making a Peace with *France*, 'till *Spain*, and all the Dominions belonging to it, be reſtor'd to the Houſe of *Auſtria*, it would break poor *Roger*'s Heart, if King *Charles* ſhould not be able to maintain his Ground there. I am ſure *Joan* and I pray heartily every Night, that he may not only do ſo, but recover all *Spain* and the *Weſt Indies*.

Obſ. The Recovery of them, *Roger*, is one of the principal Cauſes of our making War: for without that, the Ballance of *Europe* can't be preſerv'd: Our *Weſt India* Trade muſt unavoidably decay; and

and it will be hard to preſerve our other Colonies there, from having the ſame Fate with St. *John*'s in *Newfoundland*.

Country-m. I am ſure, Maſter, ſhould that be the Caſe, it would be one of the wofulleſt Day's that *England* ever ſaw. Our *Gazette* is pretty well cramm'd with Bankrupts already, but then it would not contain them, and few People would have a Penny to ſpare to buy an Account of 'em.

Obſ. That convinces me, *Roger*, that her Majeſty and the Parliament will take effectual Care to ſupport King *Charles*; and that the *Spaniſh* Monarchy and the *Weſt Indies* ſhall be reſtor'd to the Houſe of *Auſtria*, becauſe 'tis as much the Intereſt of *Great Britain*, as 'tis the Intereſt of that Houſe, it ſhould be ſo.

Country-m. How d'ye make that appear, Maſter?

Obſ. I told you before, *Roger*, that the Ballance of *Europe* can't be preſerv'd without it; to which I add, that we can't otherwiſe be ſecure againſt the *St. Germains* Family, and other Popiſh Pretenders, deſcended from the Dutcheſs of *Orleance*, Daughter to King *Charles* the I. which not only includes the Prince of *Piedmont*, and his Poſterity, if he live to have any; and the Dutcheſs of *Burgundy*, and her Poſterity; but the Dutcheſs of *Anjou*, or *Philip* the V's Queen, with the Prince of *Aſturiae*, and what other Poſterity ſhe may have; and as we may remember, that the Duke of *Anjou*, when complimented by the Pretender, upon his Uſurpation of the Crown of *Spain*, told him, *That he hop'd, e'er long, to have an Opportunity to congratulate him upon the like Occaſion*, and that he might depend upon his Friendſhip and Aſſiſtance. We are not to doubt, if he be continu'd in Poſſeſſion, but he will be as good as his Word; and in Caſe of the Failure of the *St. Germains* Family, that he will, with much more Zeal, eſpouſe the Intereſt of his Brother-in-Law, the Prince of *Piedmont*; of his Siſter-in-Law, the Dutcheſs of *Orleance*; and of his own Iſſue, by her Siſter; which I think makes it plain, that 'tis our Intereſt to humble *France*, and to recover the *Spaniſh* Monarchy, and the *Spaniſh Weſt Indies*, from the Houſe of *Bourbon*.

Country-m. I wiſh, Maſter, that nothing of this may be at the Bottom of ſome Peoples Neglect of ſupporting King *Charles*, and croſſing the Emperor's Meaſures in *Italy*, and elſewhere, that he mayn't be in a Condition to ſupport his Brother.

Obſ. There's another undeniable Proof of our Intereſt, *Roger*, to ſupport King *Charles*, and to recover *Spain* and the *Weſt Indies* from the Houſe of *Bourbon*; and that is, the vaſt Conſequence of that Trade to us. Our Trade with *Spain* was known to be one of the moſt conſiderable Branches of our Commerce. Their Wooll is neceſſary to the working up our fine Cloth; of which, as Dr. *Davenant* computed many Years ago, we made annually 19034 Pieces, and exported every Year 9034. which, upon due Enquiry, we may find to be very much leſſen'd in both thoſe Reſpects; and conſidering the Bays, Stuffs, and Fiſh, that the *Spaniards* took annually off our Hands, for which we brought Home Wine, Fruits, or Species, 'tis plain, that our Trade is very much ſunk by the Loſs of *Spain*; of which, thoſe concern'd in the Woollen Manufactory are very ſenſible. Then, as to *America*, the Doctor computed, that our annual Export thither was about 350000 *l. per An.* and our Gain by that Trade 600000 *l. per An.* and if, as is computed by ſome, we employ'd 100000 Negroes in *America*, and that the Product of the Labour of every 100 Negroes be 1600 *l. per An.* that yielded to the Subjects of *Great Britain* 1600000 *l. per An.* But how much that Trade is fallen ſince, our Merchants are beſt able to give an Account.

Country-m. I think you have prov'd ſufficiently, Maſter, that 'tis as much our Intereſt, as that of the Houſe of *Auſtria*, to have *Spain* and the *Weſt Indies* reſtor'd to that Family. This juſtifies the Reſolves of Queen and Parliament, to make no Peace with *France*, 'till that be effected; and will juſtify to all the World, our Parliaments Enquiry into the Poſture of King *Charles*'s Affairs; how he has been, or is like to be ſupported; whether he be able to ſtand his Ground; whether he has the Number of Troops ſtipulated; in what Condition his Troops are; whether the Country be in a Condition to maintain more when they are ſent thither, without carrying Money and Proviſions with them; what Garriſons he has in his Hand, and in what Condition of Defence; what Money is neceſſary to ſupport him; how the Money return'd him already has been diſpos'd of, and who are fitteſt to be entruſted with the Diſpoſal of it for Time to come; what Number of Troops we and our Allies have in *Portugal*, in what Condition they are; whether the *Portugueze* be able to give the *Spaniards* any Diverſion in his Favour; and if not, what is the Cauſe of it. But enough of this at preſent, Maſter. I have ſome Obſervations for you next Time, that I made upon the defacing of the Gentlemens Names that ſet up the Union-Arms in a certain Church-Window not far from *Lombard-Street*.

Advertiſements.

☞ The Scourge of Venus and Mercury, repreſented in a Treatiſe of the Venereal Diſeaſe; together with an Appendix in anſwer to Mr. John Marten's Reflexions thereupon. By J. Sinteler, Practitioner in Phyſick. Price of the Appendix alone 1 ound 6 d, together 3 s. 6 d. Sold by R. Gosling at the Mitre in Fleet-ſtreet, W. Carter at the Green Dragon in St. Paul's Church-yard, J. Phillips at the black Bull in Cornhill, H. Riboteau at the Crown near Cecil-ſtreet in the Strand, B. Picard at the 3 Bibles in the Minories, J. Harding in St. Martins-lane near Long-acre, J. Morphew near Stationers-hall, and by the Author at his Dwelling-houſe (late the Duke of Leeds's) in high Holborn, over against little Turn-ſtile.

Juſt publiſh'd,

☞ The Secret Hiſtory of the Calves-head-Club; or, The Republican unmask'd. With a large Continuation, and an Appendix to the Hiſtory; wherein is fully ſhewn, the Religion of the Calves-head Heroes, in their anniverſary Thanksgiving-Songs on the 30th of January, by them call'd Anthems; with Reflexions thereupon. The Seventh Edition, with large Improvements; and a Deſcription of the Calves-head Club, and the Effigies of Oliver Cromwell, and his Cabinet Council, curiouſly engrav'd on Copper-plates. To which is annex'd, a Vindication of the Royal Martyr, King Charles the Firſt; wherein are laid open, the Republicans Myſteries of Rebellion. Written in the Time of the Uſurpation, by the celebrated Mr. Butler, Author of Hudibras. With a Character of a Preſbyterian, written by Sir John Denham, Kt. and the Character of a modern Whig; or, The Republican in Faſhion. Sold by B. Bragge in Pater-Noſter-Row.

☞ The Royal Decoction, or a never-failing Diet-Drink againſt the Venereal Diſeaſe. Its wonderful Efficacy is ſuch, that any Patient may be thereby moſt effectually cur'd, be it of never ſo long ſtanding, and aggravated by ineffectual Salivations, and the Body be cover'd with Scabs, Ulcers, Blotches, and the Legs with Holes, all the Limbs with moſt excruciating Pains, the Palate eaten away, and the Noſe fallen in, &c. This Anti-venereal Decoction eaſes all the Venereal Pains in 8 Days, and in 30 Days perfects the whole Cure, and that without the Uſe of Mercury. The Gentleman, who alone prepares this Decoction, offers to enter into an Engagement, from 100 to 500 Pounds, for the Performance of what he promiſes, if any Patient, tho' diſcourag'd by other Practitioners, will come to his Houſe, he will furniſh them with Neceſſaries, as well as Phyſick, for 8 Days, and if by that time he is not ſatisfy'd that he may be perfectly cur'd, he is free to leave it, without paying any thing for Lodging, Diet, or Phyſick. The Taſte of this Decoction is ſo pleaſant, and the Operation ſo kind to Nature, that big-belly'd Women and Sucklings are daily cur'd with it at all the Seaſons of the Year. The Doctor or his Wife are to be ſpoken with at all ſeaſonable Hours, at the Hand and Urinal, over againſt little Turn-ſtile in high Holborn, (late the D. of Leeds's). N.B. The Bill at large is to be ſeen hanging up in the Royal Exchange, London.

☞ Eliz. Tutchin, Widow of the late John Tutchin, who formerly kept a Boarding-ſchool at Newington-Green and Shacklewell, now keeps a School near the Nags-head at Highgate; where is good Accommodation for Lodgers.

☞ Gentlemen, who have any Thing to communicate to the Author of this Paper, are deſir'd to direct it to be left with H. Meere, at the Black-Fryar in Black-Fryars, for the Obſervator, Poſt pay'd. Where Advertiſements are taken in.

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